



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, March 23, 2025 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

Christian Service Brings Affliction

2 Corinthians 1:1-22

1. Christian service is sometimes complicated.
2. Christian service connects people to our great God.
(2 Corinthians 1:1-2)



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Sermon Notes

3. We apply the comfort that we receive from God to others via Christian service. (2 Corinthians 1:3-7)

4. Christian service is not easy, but it teaches us reliance upon God. (2 Corinthians 1:8-11)

Table Talk

- 1) What stands out in the history of Paul that led to his writing 2 Corinthians? What hardships did he face that are similar to the hardships that we face?
- 2) What parts of this letter's introduction are about people? What parts are about God? How are those parts connected to one another? (vv.1-2)
- 3) Tell of a time when you were comforted by God in affliction. Tell of a time when you have been a comfort to someone else because of your experience being comforted by God. What does "comfort" involve? What does it not involve? (vv. 3-7)
- 4) What afflictions does Paul express in verses 8-11? Have you ever been so burdened that you despaired of life itself? What does "despair of life itself" mean? Does it suggest that Paul was suicidal? What was the divine purpose of Paul's afflictions? (v. 9) How can we rely upon God rather than ourselves?
- 5) What is our hope in affliction? (v. 10) How does the ministry of prayer for others result in blessing for many?